

Chrono



Washington, D.C. 20505

OLL 85-1423

13 MAY 1985

Thomas K. Latimer
Staff Director
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Tom:

This is in response to your request for Agency comments on a draft copy of the Intelligence Authorization bill for fiscal year 1986. Initially, I would note that the draft copy was received on the afternoon of Friday, May 10, and it would be impossible to obtain OMB clearance in the time provided for this response. Any comments therefore are most preliminary and unofficial. And while the Agency by law represents the Intelligence Community, we have had no time to coordinate our response with other members of the community. In that sense, we are operating in a vacuum. Suffice it to say that this letter should not be interpreted as an endorsement of the bill in any manner.

Overall, the Agency is somewhat concerned and troubled by a number of provisions in the bill. For other provisions, we do not know the precise meaning of the language used nor do we comprehend its reach. In the limited time we have had to provide a response, here are some of our concerns: (In format, I reiterate the current language of the bill followed by comment)

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As you can see, we have serious problems with the legislation in its current form. Moreover, none of the provisions of this administrations draft bill are contained in the committee's bill, nor was the Agency solicited for the inclusion of such provisions. I would like to be given more time so that the Agency can provide official comment on the legislation, as well as make drafting suggestions and provide interpretive material for the committee report. Nevertheless, I do appreciate the opportunity to provide these unofficial comments.

Sincerely,

/s/

Charles A. Briggs
Director, Office of Legislative Liaison

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



Director, Office of Legislative Liaison 13 May 1985

NOTE TO: Mr. Thomas K. Latimer
Staff Director
Permanent Select Committee on
Intelligence
House of Representatives

Tom:

As you can tell, time precluded not only coordination but putting this more in my language.

I thought it more important to convey the areas that appear to involve some difficulty than to polish - since this must, of necessity be informal.

And, as you also see, since we had it, we addressed the whole document, not just the new military equipment section. John McMahon didn't have a chance to consider this in any depth, but he did express concern about Section 402 on CI.

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Charles A. Briggs

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